

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 6 and 7 and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A connector, comprising:  
at least one connector port in the connector to supply power or establish communications to a printed circuit board;  
at least one connector lead to connect the at least one connector port to the printed circuit board; and  
at least one positive thermal coefficient switch ~~provided as~~ that is part of the connector on an exposed exterior surface of the connector ~~and provided~~ between the at least one connector port and the at least one connector lead to cut off communications or power and protect at least one circuit in the printed circuit board.
2. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~in~~ of claim 1, wherein the at least one positive thermal coefficient switch is an axial leaded positive thermal coefficient switch embedded within the exposed exterior surface of the connector.
3. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~in~~ of claim 1, wherein the at least one positive thermal coefficient switch is a surface mounted positive thermal coefficient switch mounted on the exposed exterior surface of the connector.
4. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~recited in~~ of claim 3, wherein the at least one connector lead connected to the at least one connector port is connected to at least one lead/trace embedded in or mounted on the printed circuit board.
5. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~recited in~~ of claim 1, wherein the at least one connector lead connected to the at least one connector port is connected to at least one trace/lead embedded in or mounted on the printed circuit board.

6-7. Cancelled.

8. (Currently Amended) A connector, comprising:  
at least one connector port in the connector to supply power or establish communications to a printed circuit board;  
a plurality of connector leads to connect the at least one connector port to the printed circuit board; and  
a plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches ~~provided as~~ that are part of the connector on an exposed exterior surface of the connector ~~and provided~~ between the at least one connector port and the plurality of connector leads to cut off communications or power and protect at least one circuit in the printed circuit board.

9. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~recited in~~ of claim 8, wherein a single connector lead of the plurality of connector leads is connected to a positive thermal coefficient switch of the plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches and is connected to a ~~plurality of leads/traces~~ lead/trace contained within the printed circuit board and is connected to the at least one circuit in the printed circuit board.

10. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~recited in~~ of claim 9, wherein the plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches are a plurality of axial leaded positive thermal coefficient switches embedded within the exposed exterior surface of the connector.

11. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~in~~ of claim 9, wherein the plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches are a plurality of surface mounted positive thermal coefficient switches mounted on the exposed exterior surface of the connector.

12. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~recited in~~ of claim 9, wherein the at least one connector port is a plurality of connector ports.

13. (Currently Amended) A connector, comprising:  
at least one connector port in the connector to supply power or establish communications to a printed circuit board;  
a plurality of connector leads to connect the at least one connector port to the printed circuit board; and  
a plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches ~~provided as~~ that are part of the connector on an exposed exterior surface of the connector ~~and provided~~ between the at least one connector port and the plurality of connector leads to cut off communications or power and protect at least one circuit in the printed circuit board, wherein a single connector lead of the plurality of connector leads is connected to a positive thermal coefficient switch of the plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches and is connected to a ~~plurality of leads/traces~~ lead/trace contained within the printed circuit board and is connected to the at least one circuit in the printed circuit board.

14. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~recited in~~ of claim 13, wherein the plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches are a plurality of axial leaded positive thermal coefficient switches embedded within the exposed exterior surface of the connector.

15. (Currently Amended) The connector ~~in~~ of claim 13, wherein the plurality of positive thermal coefficient switches are a plurality of surface mounted positive thermal coefficient switches mounted on the exposed exterior surface of the connector.

16. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising:  
at least one connector port in the connector to supply power or establish communications to a printed circuit board;  
~~one a~~ a connector lead to connect the at least one connector port to a ~~plurality of leads/traces~~ lead/trace of the printed circuit board; and  
~~one a~~ a positive thermal coefficient switch ~~provided as~~ that is part of the connector ~~and provided~~ between the at least one connector port and the ~~one~~ connector lead to cut off communications or power and protect at least one circuit in the printed circuit board.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ connector of claim 16, wherein the ~~at least one~~ positive thermal coefficient switch is an axial leaded positive thermal coefficient switch embedded within the connector.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ connector of claim 16, wherein the ~~at least one~~ positive thermal coefficient switch is a surface mounted positive thermal coefficient switch mounted on the connector.